TRANSATLANTIC FRIENDSHIP AND MOBILITY INITIATIVE
BILATERAL SEMINAR

Paris, France
March 7-8, 2016

Workshop 4
Professionalizing Study Abroad Experiences:
Developing Research and Professional Internships in the US and France

Subject: This workshop will be held on March 8, from 9:15 am to 11:45 am and will be introduced by the panelists, who will each have 10 minutes to share their views on the subject and the resources to be implemented. The chairs will lead the discussion with the participants in order to come up with proposals for deliverables.

Chairs: Minh-Hà Pham (Embassy of France) and Florence de Claissen de Mourgues (George Washington University)
Panelists: Christopher Cripps (PSL), Stacy Burger (Lehigh University), Catherine Martineau-Huynh (Centrale Supélec), Marianne Conde Salazar (Paris Ile-de-France Chamber of Commerce and Industry), Joannah Bell (French American Chamber of Commerce in NY)
Rapporteur: Léa Futschik (Embassy of France)

Questions that will be addressed during the debate

Research internships
- Research organizations, Grandes Ecoles, Universities: what are the different methods for hosting undergraduate, Masters and PhD interns?
- Platforms offering research internships to French students: how can they be expanded to foreign students and especially to US students (provide examples)?

Internships in companies
- What are the needs for French and US companies hosting young people from the US and France?
- How can business networks and alumni networks have a proactive role in the placement of American and French interns in companies in France in the United States respectively?
- How can the US France Alumni Platform help American students find internships in French companies and provide French companies with access to the profiles of American students they are looking for?

Deliverables
- Maintain this working group after the seminar in order to identify (or develop) platforms with internship offers.
- Commitment from business networks to increase their capacity for hosting students going abroad.
- Develop of a mentoring program for research internships; host universities agree to identify “buddies.”
- Draft of a “Guide for internships in France for American Students” in English and a “Guide for internships in the United States for French students” (examples of résumés, cover letters and interview advice, sample internship agreement, explanation of visa process...).